

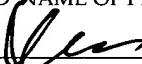


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of)	
ROBERT HEINEMANN et al.)	Examiner: David Q. Le
for:)	Group Art Unit: 3621
METHOD FOR AUTOMATIC)	
PROCESSING OF INVOICES)	
Serial No.: 09/633,216)	
Filed: August 7, 2000)	Our Docket No. 5140-01

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to an Office Action of December 17, 2003, the Applicants submit the following Preliminary Amendment, Request for Continued Examination and one-month Extension of Time. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the existing rejections in view of the Applicants' amendments and remarks below.